

VEGETABLE VARIETIES for New York

—John Carew and Alvin Hamson—

YOU need good seed to grow good vegetables. Choosing the proper variety is vital. Making the right deci-

sion, however, is often difficult, particularly when you read the array of varieties listed in seed catalogues.

How to Buy Vegetable Varieties

Keep these points in mind when you buy vegetable seeds:

There is no "perfect" variety—you must often compromise between earliness, disease resistance, yield, eating quality, and the like.

Buy only from reputable seed firms. Except for beans, peas, and

other large-seeded crops, the cost of seed is usually a minor part of your production expenses. The \$2.00 you "save" on a pound of tomato seed may cost you \$200 by the end of the season.

Try new varieties. New and better disease-resistant strains are coming on the market every year. They may be



worth money to you. Make sure they're given a fair trial, however, before you change completely from your regular varieties.

The Departments of Vegetable Crops at Ithaca and Geneva, in cooperation with county agents and vegetable growers, conduct a large number of variety trials each year to evaluate new releases. They attempt to com-

pare yields and quality. It is obvious, however, that the quality of vegetable varieties is often of more importance than the yield. Getting agreement among growers on just what is the "best" variety is commonly impossible.

The following list, therefore, includes a few varieties generally accepted as being good and worthy of trial; it is by no means complete:

Crops and Varieties

Asparagus

Mary Washington (P)¹

Beans, Lima

Bush or dwarf

Fordhook 242 (P)—large seed

Triumph—small seed

Pole

Ideal or King of the Garden

Beans, Snap

Bush (green)

Bountiful, Plentiful—flat pods

Stringless Black Valentine, Contender—oval pods

Tendergreen (P), Tenderlong 15, Wade (P), Slendergreen—round pods

Bush (wax)

Surecrop Wax—flat pods

Cherokee Wax—oval pods

Kinghorn Wax (P)—round pods

Pole (green)

Blue Lake, Scotia, Kentucky Wonder

Pole (wax)

Kentucky Wonder Wax

Beans, Dry or Field

California Red Kidney—red kidney

Monroe—pea bean

White Kidney—white kidney

Perry Marrow—marrow

Yelloweye—yelloweye

Beets

Early Wonder or Crosby—flattened, early
Detroit Dark Red (P)

Broccoli

Green Mountain (P), DeCicco (P), Italian Green Sprouting (P), Waltham 29 (P)

Brussels Sprouts

Catskill

Cabbage

White

Early

Golden Acre, Yellow Resistant Golden Acre, Copenhagen Market, Wisconsin Copenhagen (yellow resistant)

Midseason:

Marion Market (yellows resistant), Bonanza, Glory (P)

Late

Danish Ballhead strains, Wisconsin Hollander

Red

Red Danish

Savoy

Chieftain

Carrots

Pointed roots

Imperator, Gold Spike (short top, slender root)

¹(P) Also suggested for commercial processing.

Blunt roots

Nantes (P), Red Cored Chantenay (P), Royal Chantenay

Cauliflower

Early (The following are similar although not necessarily identical.)

Early Snowball, Snowcap, Snowball A, Super Snowball, Super Junior

Main crop

Concentrated cutting period: (The following are similar although not necessarily identical.) Snowball E, Snowball Imperial, Seneca Snowball, Snowball M, Early Snowdrift

Normal cutting period: (The following are similar although not necessarily identical.) Snowball X, Improved Holland Erfurt, Snowball 16, Snowball Perfected, Snowdrift, Snowball Y, Snowball 25.

Celery*Yellow or self-blanching*

Cornell 19, Cornell 619, Golden Plume

Green

Emerson Pascal (blight resistant), Utah strains

Cucumber*Slicing*

Marketer, Niagara (mosaic resistant), Burpee Hybrid

Pickling

Yorkstate Pickling (mosaic resistant), Ohio M.R. 17 (mosaic resistant), Wisconsin S.R. No. 6 (scab resistant)

Eggplant

Black Beauty, Black Magic

Endive

Full Heart Batavian (escarolle), Green Curled (chicory)

Kale

Dwarf Curled

Kohlrabi

Early White Vienna

Leek

American Flag

Lettuce*Head**Crisp head*

456 (heat tolerant), Pennlake, Great-lakes

Butterhead

White Boston

Cos or Romaine

Parris Island, Trianon or White Paris

Leaf

Salad Bowl, Black Seeded Simpson

Muskmelon*Early*

Delicious 51 (fusarium resistant), Seneca Delicious

Main crop

Iroquois (fusarium resistant), Golden Delight, Market King (similar to Pride of Wisconsin and Queen of Colorado)

Onion

Early Yellow Globe, Brigham Yellow Globe, Yellow Sweet Spanish (from plants), Ebenezer (from sets)

Parsley

Paramount

Parsnip

Model

Peas*Early*

Worlds Record, Greater Progress, Wando (heat tolerant), Surprise (P), Ace (P), Thomas Laxton (P)

Main crop

Victory Freezer (P), Lincoln, Alderman, Perfection (P), Famous (P), Shoshone (P), Shasta (P)

Peppers*Early*

Vinedale (small but early), Burlington (mosaic resistant), Pennwonder

- Main crop*
Allbig (Ill. F₂), Calwonder, California
Wonder
- Popcorn**
Hybrid Hulless or Minhybrid 250
- Potatoes²**
Early
Irish Cobbler, Cherokee (scab and late-blight resistant)
Main crop
Katahdin, Ontario (scab resistant),
Kennebec
- Pumpkins**
Small Sugar (New England Pie),
Connecticut Field
- Radish**
Comet, Cherry Belle, Early Scarlet Globe,
Cavalier
- Rhubarb**
Valentine, MacDonald
- Rutabaga**
Laurentian
- Spinach**
American, Long Standing Bloomsdale
- Squash, Summer**
Yellow
Seneca Prolific, Yankee Hybrid, Early
Yellow Prolific
Green
Zucchini, Cocozelle
White
Crystal Ball
- Squash, Winter**
Butternut, Buttercup, Table Queen, Delicious, Blue Hubbard, Boston Marrow (P)
- Sweet Corn**
Early
North Star, Seneca 60, Spancross
Second Early
Marcross, Carmelcross, Seneca Arrow (P), Tendergold (P)
Main Crop
Golden Cross (P), Seneca Chief, Io-chief (P), Victory Golden (P), Tendermost (P), Ioana (P), Golden Security
- Swiss Chard**
Fordhook Giant
- Tomatoes**
Early
Valiant, Early Hybrid, Valnorth, Vancross, Moreton Hybrid
Main Crop
Longred (P), Red Jacket (P), Rutgers, Big Boy, Red Top (paste type) (P), Sunray (yellow).
Glasshouse or Staked
Comet, Waltham Forcing, Trellis 22
- Turnip**
Purple Top White Globe
- Watermelon**
Honey Cream (yellow flesh), Rhode Island Red, New Hampshire Midget (very small)

²For more specific variety recommendations, consult Cornell Extension Bulletin 890, *Potato Production in New York*.

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